

ADJUTANT AND INSPECTOR GENERAL'S OFFICE,
Richmond, February 16, 1863.

GENERAL ORDERS, }
No. 18. }

I. With the exceptions herein after named, all outstanding authorities issued from the War Department to recruit persons of conscript age into regiments, battalions or companies not in service on the 16th day of April 1862, will be held as terminated from and after the 10th day of March next.

Any new organization that shall meantime have been completed up to the legal standard of a regiment, battalion or company, as may have been specified in the original authority issued, will be reported before the 10th of March to the Adjutant and Inspector General's office for muster and reception into service.

The organization itself failing of completion, the material within conscript ages (including officers) of such parts as shall have been enrolled for the special service, will be reported to the local Commandants of Conscripts, respectively, for enrollment and conscription. These commandants will, however, cause to be allowed to the persons thus transferred, previous to enrollment, the privilege of volunteering in companies that were in service on the 16th of April 1862.

II. From the operation of this Order are excepted new companies or corps in process of organization under authority issuing from the War Department, of a date later than the 10th of December 1862, and all such as may have been authorized to be recruited from material found within districts possessed by the enemy, or in which the conscript law has been suspended by the President, or in which the regular execution of the conscript law is, from the vicinity of the enemy, unattainable.

III. All officers and persons acting under authority, now and hereafter, to recruit new organizations, will report to the Commandants of Conscripts in their respective states, the names of those persons who are employed by them in enlisting recruits. In the absence of such official evidence, the enrolling officers will not recognize the authority claimed.

By order.

S. COOPER,
Adjutant and Inspector General.